



EAST CENTRAL
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE GOSPEL CHOIR

RETIREMENT GALA & RECOGNITION *Banquet*

HONORING

34 YEARS OF
DEDICATED SERVICE



BRENDA K.
Johnson

SATURDAY APRIL 23, 2022 | 6PM

THE LEGACY OF MRS. JOHNSON....

Brenda K. Johnson was born in Newton County and currently resides in Lawrence, MS. She is a graduate of Newton City Schools; she attended East Central Community College where she obtained an associate's degree in Child-Care Technology. She served as the sponsor of the ECCC Gospel Choir for 34 yrs. She and her husband, Albert Johnson have 2 sons, Sedrick and Sheldon. She is the proud grandmother of six. She is a member of Good Hope M.B. Church in Hickory, MS where she serves as finance secretary. She enjoys working with children and being an assistant wherever she is needed.

Mrs. Johnson began her tenure as the sponsor of East Central Community College Gospel Choir in 1988 when a group of young ladies who lived in the Jackson Hall dormitory approached the late President, Dr. Eddie M. Smith, and asked him if they could reorganize the choir. His reply was if they could find a sponsor. At the time Mrs. Brenda Johnson was an employee in childcare. She was asked, she accepted and she dedicated her life to be not only the sponsor but mother for many away from home. "Helping students do what they do," was the force behind her dedication. Before Mrs. Johnson became the sponsor of the choir it was led by the late Mrs. Lawrence Tingle.

The ECCC Gospel Choir has made appearances at local churches and schools in the East Central five-county district under Mrs. Johnson's guidance. The choir has been allowed the chance to travel to different states to minister in songs over the years; to Memphis, Tennessee, Atlanta, Georgia, and several parts of Texas. There have been several trips to the Baptist Student Union Retreats. And the unique opportunity to perform at Disney's Magic Kingdom in Florida in the Spring of 2000. Most recently, Mrs. Johnson was able to be part of the Reunion Choir's Cruise to Cozumel, Mexico.

The gospel choir is more than a group of students that want to sing but a true ministry, a family. The heart of Mrs. Johnson was the leading factor that has led this group for so many years. Mrs. Johnson along with her husband Albert Johnson adopted so many of the students as their very own kids offering them encouragement, leadership, guidance, and much more.

The choir's alumni roster includes award-winning recording artists, music ministries, professional musicians, educators, medical professionals, entrepreneurs, business and community leaders. Several couples who met while members of the choir are happily married. There are also numerous pastors and ministers in the ranks of the ECCC Gospel Choir Alumni. You can find one of Mrs. Johnson's "kids" just about anywhere.

Brenda K. Johnson leaves a legacy of quiet excellence and dedication. The mark of her hand can be found in many lives.



Retirement Blessings

You've worked real hard,
you've come this far,
I hope you know
how blessed you are!
New tomorrows,
brand new plans,
all of them
are in God's hands.

You'll have more
hours in the day
to hope, to dream,
to rest, to play.
You'll find new ways
to be inspired;
Congratulations!
You've retired!

Congratulations Mrs. Johnson!!!

GOSPEL CHOIR



East Central Community College Gospel Choir is a collaborative musical ensemble with a long history of musical excellence and diverse membership. The gospel choir performs for both campus and community events. Members of the gospel choir use their musical talents (voice and instrumental) to inspire and positively motivate others through gospel music. The EC Gospel Choir welcomes all students to explore the rich worship and emotion of gospel music. The choir meets one night a week in Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Building. Every semester the choir host a fall concert and a Black History Program.

Qualifications to join the Gospel Choir

- Be enrolled in ECCC
- Be available for regular rehearsal
- Be willing to abide by rules of the college
- Be obedient to rules of the choir sponsor
- Represent the college with respect
- Be patient and dependable
- Strive continually to enhance his/her talents

Brenda K. Johnson Gospel Choir Scholarship

The scholarship is awarded annually to incoming or current member(s), musician(s) or officer(s) of the ECCC Gospel Choir. The award funds will be disbursed in two equal payments during the school year the student(s) serve. The recipient(s) will be selected by the College Scholarship Committee from students who apply and who meet the criteria. Scholarship may be applied for through EC Foundation.

**For more information contact Mr. LeVar Robinson, Sponsor
at 601-635-6430 or email: lrobinson@eccc.edu**

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COMMUNITY COLLEGE
With You In Mind



YouTube

@ecccgospelchoir

www.eccc.edu/gospel-choir | Email: ecccgospelchoir@eccc.edu

EAST CENTRAL
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BLESSINGS ON YOUR RETIREMENT!!!

In 1996 as a freshman student at East Central Community College, this group changed my life forever.

Although God blessed me with an amazing and supportive mother that pushed me in every aspect of my life, you were the fuel to the fire. Thank you, Mrs. Johnson for always pushing, believing, and trusting in me. You have entrusted me with a group that has been near and dear to your heart for many years, I don't take that lightly. Because of you many of us wouldn't be where we are today.

Thank you for creating the footsteps that I now walk in. The path and the legacy that you have set during your tenure as gospel choir sponsor will carry on. I am so honored to carry on this great legacy. I look forward to many more trips together. Enjoy your retirement! We love you, Mrs. Johnson!

LeVar J. Robinson

ECCC Gospel Choir Sponsor 2022

From the heart of Mrs. Johnson...

**But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and
his righteousness; and all these things
shall be added unto you.**

Matthew 6:33



Being hired in 1988 as EC Gospel Choir sponsor has had its rewards. I never would have imagined it would have been 34 Years. Children have always been a part of my life.

"The greatest gift you can give a child is your time."

BRENDA K. JOHNSON

**EAST CENTRAL
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

From the President

Mrs. Johnson has been a valued employee of East Central Community College for many years and her contributions will be sorely missed. The students that she has assisted during this time have grown to be leaders throughout our five-county district and the state. We as a college sincerely thank Mrs. Johnson for her work at the College and wish her all the best in her retirement.

**J. Brent Gregory, Ph.D.
President**

**Congratulations Mrs. Johnson on your
retirement from
East Central Community College!**

You have embraced me as a colleague and friend for a decade. During our time together, I have watched you nurture, teach and share your faith with our students. The leadership, advice, compassion, and opportunities that you have provided the Gospel Choir during your tenure were unmatched by others. You truly have a heart for students and a soul for Christ. I wish you the best in retirement and know that you will be missed dearly.

Dr. Teresa Mackey
Vice-President for Instruction

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

April 23, 2022

To Mrs. Brenda K. Johnson

Soon after beginning at ECCC long, long ago, the President of the College at that time, Dr. Eddie M. Smith, called me to his office and told me that he wanted me to come along side Ms. Brenda K. and assist her with whatever the Gospel Choir needed. He told me about the importance of the group especially with the leadership influencing young people in a positive manner. That began a long and satisfying tenure with knowing and working with Ms. Brenda K. Johnson and Albert. Opportunities such as this are unusual in life so I count myself blessed and fortunate to have worked with you as you have truly positively influenced young minds and their character.

Thank you for all you have done to ensure the wonderful Christian opportunities for this very special group, the East Central Community College Gospel Choir. I believe that *When we all get to Heaven*, 100s of people will thank you for the impact you had on their lives in your work with the ECCC Gospel Choir.

May God richly bless you and Albert in your retirement.



Randall E. Lee
Vice President for Student Services
East Central Community College

Pastor Scotty Cole

Pastor Scotty Cole is the founding pastor of The Firehouse Church located in Meridian, MS. He has served in ministry as a licensed and ordained minister of the Gospel since 1999. Pastor Cole has served as a campus ministry director for Jones County Junior College, William Carey College, University of Southern Mississippi and Meridian Community College. He has also served as a missionary for the North American Mission board in 2000. Pastor Cole served under Pastor William C Brown from 2001 to 2012, During this time, he served as minister of Music for 5th Street Baptist Church and helped organize a church plant in De Kalb, MS which is New Vision Baptist Church, where he served as minister of Music and Executive Pastor. Pastor Cole is actively involved with his community. He works with the Ramp ministry, which is a ministry that build ramps for elderly and disabled individuals. He also organized The Redline Community Development, which is an organization that focuses on the revitalization of the Redline Community. Pastor Cole can be heard everyday on 95.1 The Beat the #1 urban hip hop & R&B radio station in our region, as he has now been afforded the opportunity to speak to the region during the "Motivational Moments", which is an outreach ministry that encourages all segments of society. Pastor Cole was awarded The 2013 Man of the Year award from the NAACP for his community impact and leadership, 2017 Reflection of Life Man of the Year Award, 2019 MCC Hall of Fame Inductee and numerous awards and achievements.



Pastor Cole is honored to be married to his beautiful wife of 20 years, Evangelist Kajsa Cole of Hattiesburg, MS. Together they share two children Zion (16 yrs old), and Jonathan (9 yr old). God placed the call on Pastor Cole to step out on faith and establish The Firehouse Church in 2012. Together, he and Lady Cole have worked



relentlessly and faithfully to do the work of the Kingdom. Aside from ministry Pastor Cole is a 2012 graduate of MS State University where he earned his Bachelors of Arts degree in Business Administration /Accounting. He also graduated from Liberty University in 2020 with an earned Master's degree in Christian Ministry and is currently completing his M.B.A at LSU. He is also bi-vocational owning his own business as a Real Estate Appraiser, Property Management Consultant, & Real Estate Investor. Pastor Cole preaches and teaches the Word of God practically and pragmatically. His messages will encourage, enlighten, and edify you as you seek to grow in the abounding grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Daniel Parker "Dstrangzz", Violinist



Daniel Parker is a Violinist originally from Jackson Mississippi who started violin at the age of 7. He is an alum of the prestigious high school Interlochen Arts Academy in Traverse City Michigan. He holds two degrees in Violin Performance from the University of Memphis. Daniel has studied abroad in Austria, Switzerland, and Germany in 2014. Currently Daniel is studying at Belhaven University and performs regularly at the Med Grille and subs with the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra.

Also, he teaches strings to the students in the Jackson Public School District. For booking info please E-mail: dparker92b@gmail.com

Michelle Black, Psalmist

Mrs. Michelle Black is a up and coming Gospel Recording Artist who is a native of Decatur, MS where she got her singing roots. She began singing at the age of 5 years old. She got her start in singing at her home church Sunny hill Baptist Church, she comes from a singing family her grandfather the Late James Earl Thames and her Uncles Rev. S.B. Towner and Mr. Costello Towner. Also her mother and her sibling who are Recording Artist "The Thames Family". She is the daughter of Thomas McClelland and Karen McClelland-Noland. She is married to Rev. Bradley Black and they have 2 daughters together. She is a member of A Different World Church in Meridian, MS under the leadership of Dr. Donyea Hargrove and Pastor Lindsey Hargrove.

For Booking Information (662)313-5511 or E-mail: michelleblackmusic@yahoo.com



Brushfork M. B. Church

31269 Hwy 14W
Louisville, MS 39341



*You may be retiring from this job
but you have planted seeds
that have yet to bear fruit.
Wishing all God's blessings
as new beginnings
blossom for you.*

Pastor & First Lady Robert Avant



CONGRATULATIONS



With Love
Billy R. Ford

happy retirement

*May the blessings of
Family, Friends, Health
And the satisfaction of a job well done
Fill your life with happiness.
God bless your retirement!!*

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths



**Good Hope M.B. Church
4032 Hickory Fellowship Rd
Hickory, MS 39332
Pastor George and First Lady Gloria Smith**

HAPPY
retirement

Mrs. Brenda K. Johnson

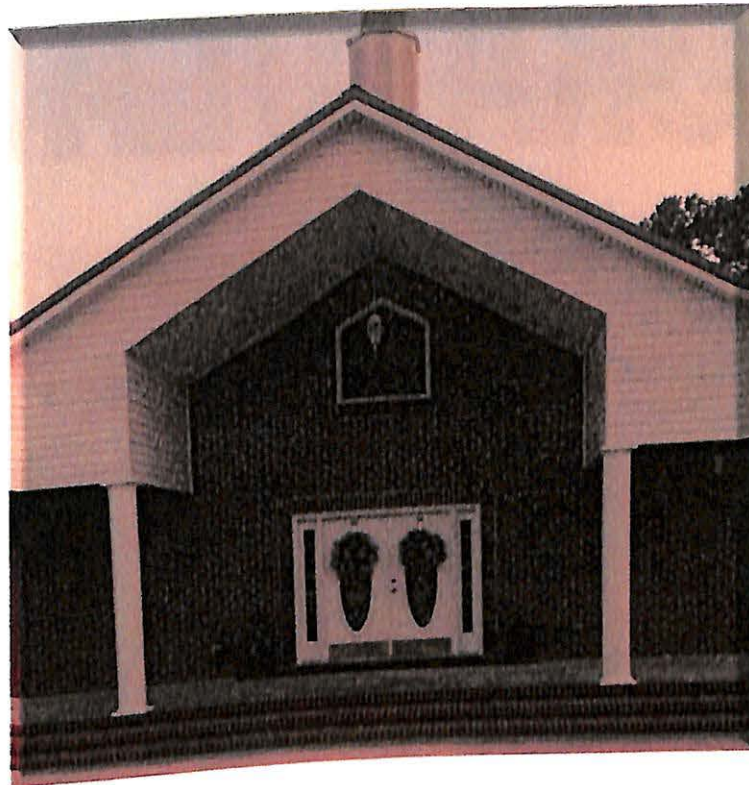
St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church

A Church Led By Faith Hebrews 11:1
Pastor Salvador May, Pastor



1915 Faulkner Graveyard Road, Morton, MS 39117

**Congratulations on your
retirement from the entire
Saint John Church Family and
Pastor & First Lady Robinson**



Saint John Baptist Church

**362 Lawrence Bethel Road
Newton, MS 39345**

Rev. Anthony Robinson, Pastor

**On behalf of Rev. Dr. Joe B. Glass
and the Pleasant Ridge Church
Family.**

CONGRATULATIONS

BRENDA K. JOHNSON for many years of
dedicated labor and strength in the
Lord. May God continue to bless and
keep you.



Pleasant Ridge M.B. Church
260 Laura Street
Noxapater, MS 39346
Rev. Dr. Joe & First Lady Evangelis
Essie Glass

Congratulations on your Retirement!

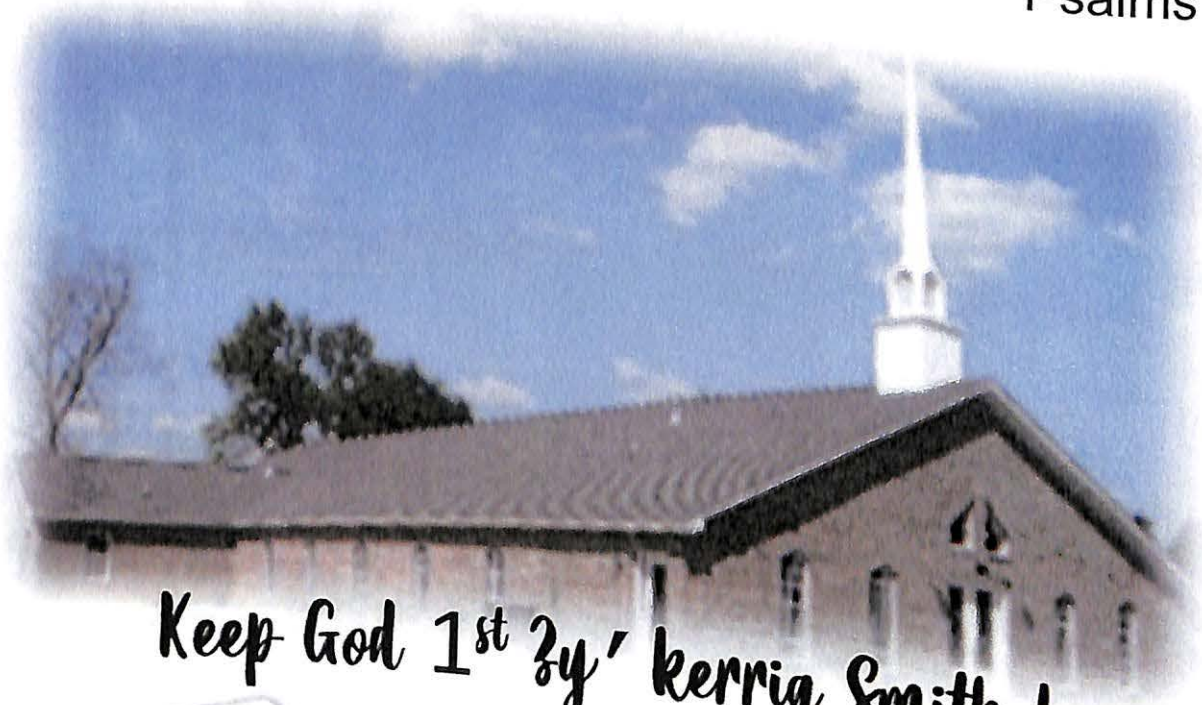
Never
FORGET THE
Difference
YOU HAVE
Made

**Pleasant Grove Baptist Church
Newton, MS 39345**

CHRISTIAN TRIUMPH M.B. CHURCH

184 Martin Luther King Drive
Morton, MS 39117

I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.
Psalms 9:2



Keep God 1st 2y' Kerria Smith!



Rev. Willie Robinson, Pastor



643 Tallabogue Road, Forest, MS 39074

*The Little Rock Missionary Baptist Church Family
Congratulations*

Mrs. Brenda K. Johnson

on Retirement as Director of

East Central Community College Gospel Choir

*We appreciate the many inspiring performances by the gospel choir over the
years in our church sanctuary located (next door to the fire station) in the
Harperville Community.*

Thank you.

Rev. Sheldon Thomas, Pastor

Matty Evans, First Black ECCC Trustee (1988-1992)

New Bethel MB Church
P.O. Box 1534
101 Fountain Rd. Forest, MS 39074



Sunday School Review - 9:30 AM via Facebook Live
Morning Worship Service - 10 AM
Bible Study - Wednesday Nights at 6:30 PM
"Reaching God's People One Soul At A Time"
Pastor Vincent D. & First Lady Sabrita Hopkins

Pilgrm Rest MB Church

1055 HWY 13 south

Morton, MS 39117



CONGRATULATES

Mrs. Brenda K. Johnson for
34 years of dedicated service to
East Central Community College
Pastor Willie E. Jones & Sis. Jimmie A. Jones
Proverbs 3:5-6



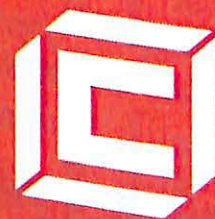
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***Best Wishes to Brenda Johnson on her retirement!
The ECCC Gospel Choir will forever be grateful for
your leadership and dedication.***

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Leake, Kemper, Madison, Neshoba, Newton, Oktibbeha,
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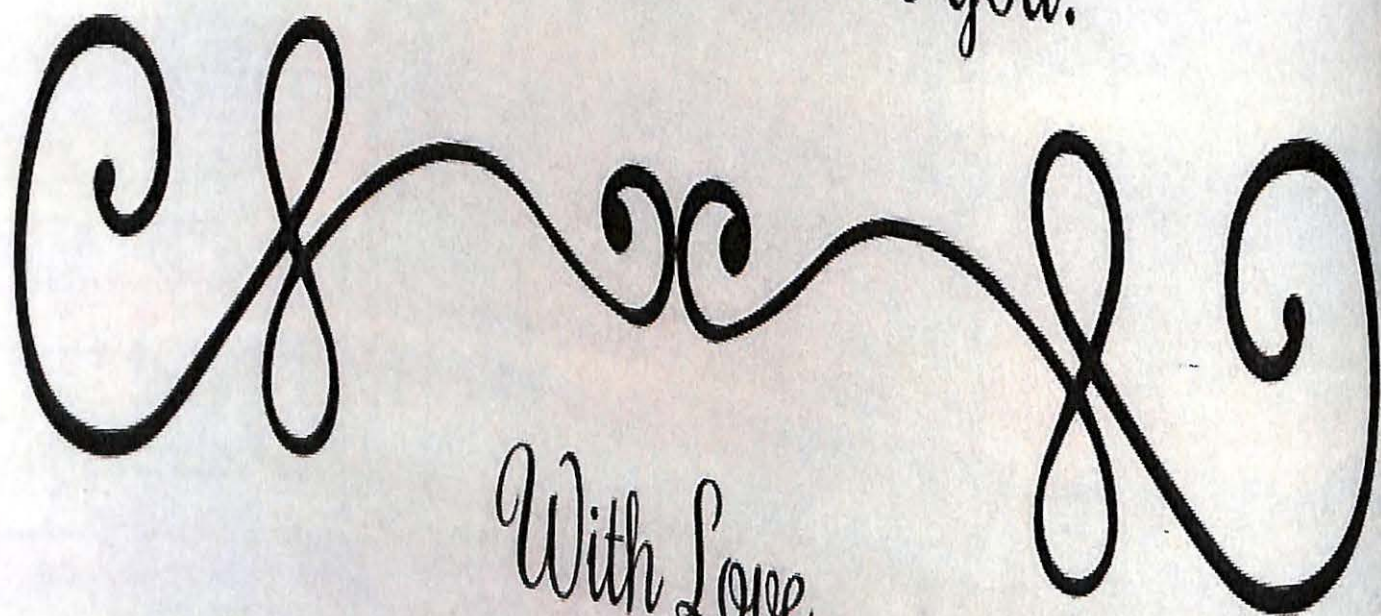
*Be Blessed in your
Retirement!*



The Smith's
(Jerry and Paulene)

Congratulations!

We hope that you enjoy your retirement &
God continues to bless you.



With Love,
Randy, Kathy, & Myla Sanders

Congratulations on your retirement!
We proudly support EC Gospel Choir!

In Memory of



Mother Hattie L. Robinson
1951-2020

**The
Robinson
&
Howell
Family**





Congratulations on your retirement,
Mrs. Johnson!
We pray that God continues to bless
this wonderful choir!

~Sheila Y. Brown & Family, Angelia Cross & Family,
Linda & KaLyndzeyia Youngblood~

"Promoting Progress By Serving All People"

City of Philadelphia

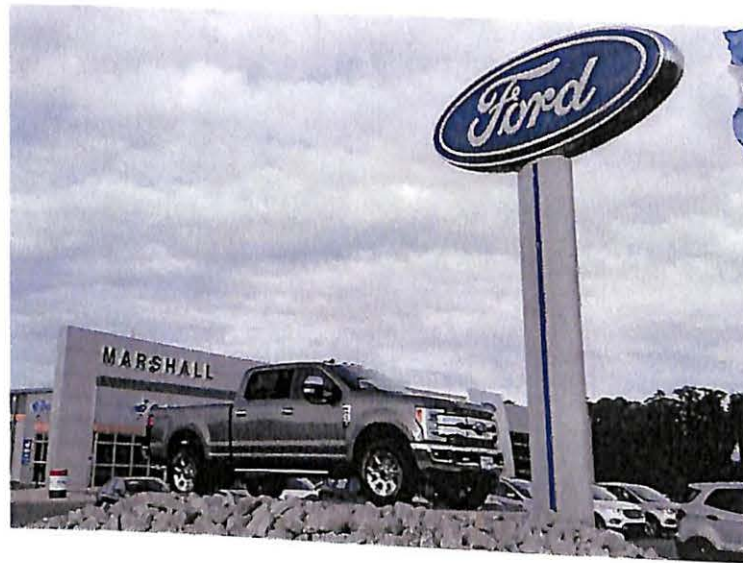
Mayor James A. Young

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Philadelphia, MS 39350
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***Praying that
God will
continue to bless
you always!***

Mayor James A. Young & Sheryl

Congratulations on your retirement!



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Kimberly C. Walker

Lawn Language

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"Skip the card; let me stake your yard!"



Love u Mrs. Brenda!
Enjoy Retirement!

***Congratulations on your
retirement!!***

God Bless You!!

-Melanie Moore

Union Grove M.B. Church
Forest, MS 39074

STAY FOCUSED!



RIDE IT OUT!

Rev. Rochelle Wright, Pastor
Galatians 6:9

In all thy way acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy path.
Proverb 3:6



I Love you Emarye!
From: Your Biggest Cheerleader

IN MEMORY OF GREATMA & AUNTIE

BEST WISHES.
~~~~~ ON YOUR ~~~~~  
*Retirement*  
~~~~~

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CONGRATULATIONS
 ON
 YOUR
 RETIREMENT
 Enjoy
 It!

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.....
*Never Forget
 The Difference
 You've Made*

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT

GOD BLESS!!!

FORMER EC GOSPEL CHOIR MEMBERS

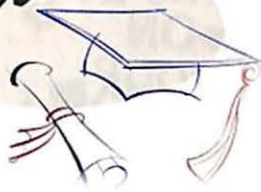
RENEE' MCDUGLE

A'DONTAY WILLIAMS

LATORREIA DAVIS-WHITE

AERIAN KEETON

Scholarships



Brenda K. Johnson Gospel Choir Scholarship

was established in December of 2014 in honor of Brenda K. Johnson by former members of the East Central Community College Gospel Choir. Mrs. Johnson, a graduate of Newton High School and East Central Community College, served as sponsor of the ECCC Gospel Choir from 1988-2022.

The scholarship is awarded annually to incoming or current member(s), musician(s), or officer(s) of the ECCC Gospel Choir. The award funds will be disbursed in two equal payments during the school year the student(s) serves, provided the student(s) meets the following scholarship criteria:

1. Be accepted or enrolled as a full-time academic or technical student.
2. Maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher for each semester.
3. Display musicianship and proficiency in their leadership, voice, and/or instrument.
4. Attend choir rehearsals weekly.
5. Conduct themselves in a professional manner.
6. Be active in choir activities and meetings on and off-campus.
7. Submit a typed essay, 250 or more words, expressing the need for campus ministry, the importance of gospel music, and what ways you could contribute to the ECCC Gospel Choir, college, and community.

Scholarships will be awarded on a year-to-year basis dependent on the availability of funding. The recipient(s) will be selected by the College Scholarship Committee from students who apply and who meet the criteria listed above.

Please contact the Foundation office at 601-635-6327 or e-mail at sholling@eccc.edu
Online giving: <https://www.eccc.edu/support-through-scholarships>

Dr. Brent Gregory, President

Dr. Teresa Mackey, Vice President for Instruction

Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services

James Miller, Dean of Student Services

THANK YOU!

To every person, family, church and business who purchased an ad or made a donation thank you for sowing into the Brenda K. Johnson Scholarship Fund, and investing in the education of a future leader.

ECCC Gospel Choir

Levar J. Robinson, Sponsor

Myla Sanders, Student Representative

Joshua Wheaton, Student Representative

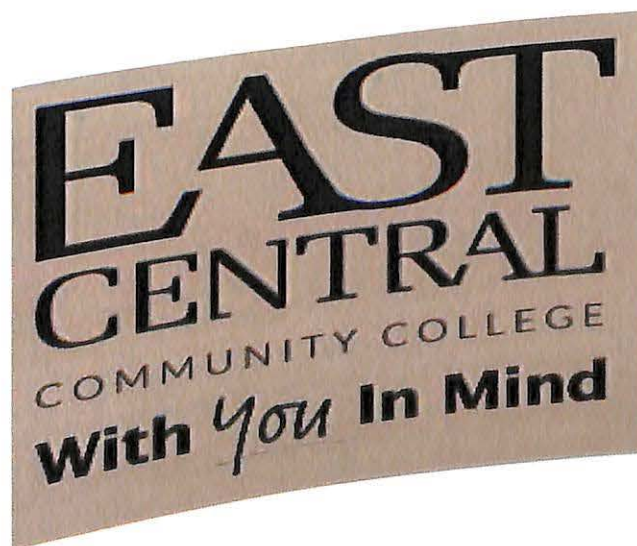
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!

